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TICOM/I-174

PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT ON
O.R.R. MUELLER OF OKW/CHI.

Attached is a preliminary interrogation report on Oberregierungsrat Helmuth MUELLER, former head of the department of OKW/Chi dealing with French systems.

The report is dated 20th November, 1945, and was received from G.S.V.(s), B.A.O.F.

TICOM

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13th December, 1945

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Subject: Oberregierungsrat Helmuth MUELLER

1. I carried out a preliminary interrogation of MUELLER at No.1 Civilian Internment Camp, NEULUENSTER today and gathered the following information:
2. MUELLER was head of the department dealing with French ciphers at the OKW Chiffriersabteilung in BERLIN. During the last war he was a Nachrichtenchef and began his deciphering career then. In 1920 he started in the BERLIN office as cryptographer and has been there until the end of this war.
3. His main commitment throughout the years before 1940 was with French diplomatic traffic. When FRANCE collapsed he dealt with the de Gaullist messages passed between CAIRO and LONDON, BRAZZAVILLE and LONDON and with all traffic passed by the underground movements in EUROPE and in French INDO CHINA. Traffic on these French nets brought in over 1500 messages each month. French ciphers were at first easy to deal with, but as the war continued they became very difficult and it was assumed that the British were exerting their influence.
4. MUELLER had also dealt with Belgian and Dutch traffic and, after 1944, with Swiss traffic. He has never had anything whatever to do with British or Russian diplomatic or Army traffic. These were handled by other departments. He had heard that no great success had been achieved with Russian Army ciphers since 1943.
5. Traffic he dealt with in BERLIN came from two Horchzentrale, one stationed near NUERNBERG and the other South of BERLIN.
6. MUELLER is extremely enthusiastic about this work and has evidently worked at it for so long that he can think of very little else - I found him quite interesting. He speaks very good English and perfect French. He is 49 years of age and lives at LUEBECK. Naturally his main thought is to get home, but he also asks that he may be allowed to go to ENGLAND to continue working on the job he has done for so long. (This man, too, swears that he was never a Party member!)
7. His arrest papers give as the reason for his arrest:- "Oberregierungsrat", and he has been there since 27 August apparently for this reason alone. With his knowledge it seems that he could be better employed elsewhere.
8. MUELLER's chief in BERLIN was an Oberst KETTLER and this man, together with a certain Regierungsrat Dr. HUETTENHAIN, is supposed to have been taken to ENGLAND to work.
9. A man named ROHEN was responsible for dealing with British diplomatic deciphering.

(Signed) R.J. EMERSON, Captain

Audorf,
Nr. RENDSBURG.

I.O. 109 W.I. Section.

20 November 1945.